

2010 Yosemite Group Volunteer Project Catalogue

Preface to the April 8, 2010 Edition

We issued the first version of the 2010 catalogue in January, with 96 projects. Since that time we've added several projects, and as of April 8 have groups signed up for 111 of the 143 projects we now have planned. Wow!

We still are looking for volunteer groups!

Tips to help you schedule a group for 2010:

- Weekend projects: most weekends from May-August we have filled our volunteer campground in the Valley. On weekends that the Yellow Pine Campground is full, we still have projects outside the valley – it's less crowded too! We can also add projects for groups that do not need accommodations/lodging/camping. Just ask!
- Weekday projects: We don't have these planned as projects, because we'll custom design them for you! If your group is flexible, consider a weekday project – the valley is less crowded, we have campsites, and are more likely to have leaders available. Just send in an application for the dates that interest you and the type of work you want, and we'll create a custom project!



United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Yosemite National Park
VIP Office
P.O. Box 700
El Portal, CA 95318



April 8, 2010

Dear Volunteer Groups:

The Yosemite National Park Volunteer Office would like to invite you to bring your group to the park this year! Enclosed is the 2010 group volunteer project catalogue. You'll find both projects and dates listed. While more than half of our projects have already been reserved for this year and are no longer in the catalogue, there may be some flexibility on some dates as well as some of the project details such as group size and minimum age. For weekday projects, please contact us so we can design a project for your timeframe.

This year we're excited about a couple marquee projects: Yosemite Creek Campground Rehabilitation and Valley Building Deconstruction. Yosemite Creek Campground was badly damaged in the 1997 floods, and it took until 2009 for the bridge across the creek to be rebuilt. After more than 12 years, the campsites on the other side of the creek are in a sad state of disrepair. This summer our volunteers will be rebuilding picnic tables, realigning campsites, installing fire rings, and overall restoring this special remote campground. In the Valley, we'll be deconstructing several buildings that are no longer in use, tearing down walls and removing more of the human impact on the Valley. While these are the projects available now, some additional projects are added throughout the year, so check back! We also may be able to create a custom project for your group, just ask.

When considering bringing your group to Yosemite to volunteer, please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- 1) All group members will be required to participate in the work project. The only exception to this will be the person designated to remain in camp as indicated in the campground rules and regulations.
- 2) Specific activities may change as other projects become available; we will always check with groups before changing their projects significantly.
- 3) As weather conditions can change rapidly in Yosemite, please ensure your group is prepared and equipped for potential adverse conditions (i.e., snow, rain, extreme heat, biting or stinging insects, black bears, etc).
- 4) The Yosemite volunteer program provides a free group campsite during your volunteer project in order to facilitate your volunteer work. We will generally provide a site for the nights before and after your volunteer work. How many nights you can stay depends on the work performed:

Nights at campsite	Work requirements – Minimum days of work, AND minimum hours (At least one of the nights must be contiguous with the volunteer day. For example, stay Friday and Saturday, volunteer Sunday is okay, but you may NOT stay Fri/Sat and volunteer Tuesday.)
Two	One day (6 hours+)
Three	One and a half days
Four	Two days
Five	Three days
Six	Three and a half days
Seven	Four days

- 5) The volunteer program will provide tools for projects, safety training, and free entrance to the park. Groups need to provide their own camping equipment, food, and transportation to the park.
- 6) Each project will list a minimum age requirement, and minimum and maximum group size. These limits help us to make sure the projects are safe and appropriate for the age and the supervision needed. If you have a younger person or a group that is slightly over the size limit, please contact the office for consultation.

To apply for a project:

- 1) Look through the catalogue to pick dates and projects that appeal to you. Be sure to note required skills and physical ability for each project. If you do have a group with limited physical capacity, we may be able to make accommodations depending on the project.
- 2) Choose your first choice project and fill in every line on the enclosed Group Application Form. If you would like to volunteer more than once in 2010, fill out a form for each trip.
- 3) List at least two alternate projects as second and third choices at the bottom of each sheet, as we often have multiple applicants for a given project. Projects are assigned on a first-come basis.
- 4) Once you have made your selections, please send your application(s) to:

Mail:	Fax:	Email:
VIP Office Yosemite National Park P.O. Box 700 El Portal, CA 95318	209-379-1853	Yose_volunteers@nps.gov (preferred method)

What happens next:

- 1) As we receive applications, we will assign dates/ projects. Generally projects will be assigned in the order in which they are received, though groups with special skills may be selected for special projects.
- 2) We will send an email confirmation to your group contact person, stating the assignment.
- 3) Later in spring, we will email a confirmation packet to your group leader with required forms and information about your project.
- 4) Please be patient! We have well over 140 projects to assign so far, and sometimes it takes a while to get all the confirmation letters out.

Planning for the future

Our volunteer program is continuing to grow and change. Lindsey Prell joined the office as Program Assistant in 2009. In late spring or summer of 2010 we hope to move into new office space in the valley. We now have a park-wide Volunteer Leadership Team to coordinate the efforts of all divisions and partners. And we're looking forward to working with our park partners more closely in the future. We also hope to begin doing much more of our paperwork and correspondence electronically to cut down on paper and our carbon footprint. Hence, this year forms will be sent by email when possible, and volunteer programs evaluations will be on the internet.

Last year over 9,400 individual volunteers provided over 154,000 hours of service to Yosemite. That's the equivalent of over 80 full time park service employees! Without you, critical repair and restoration work could not be completed. We greatly appreciate you for supporting the National Park Service mission.

Sincerely,

Heather Boothe
Volunteer Program Manager
209-379-1855
yose_volunteers@nps.gov

Lindsey Prell
Volunteer Program Assistant
209-379-1850

Enc:
2010 Recurring Projects Description
2010 Yosemite Group Volunteer Project Catalogue
2010 Group Application



Yosemite National Park

2010

Recurring Projects Descriptions

Project Name: Restoration Vegetation

Description:

Invasive plant species are attacking Yosemite, and native plants need your help in the battle! Volunteers will assist the Resources Mgmt & Science division staff with a variety of tasks related to managing the natural and/or cultural resources in Yosemite National Park. The tasks will vary depending on the needs of the volunteer program throughout the year. Typical projects in the past have included removing invasive plants, restoring habitat, planting native plants, and removing conifers encroaching on meadows.

Skills and Abilities:

Minimum Age: 8 Group Size: minimum 5, max 15

Work will take place outdoors and working conditions will be variable. Volunteers should dress appropriately for the work & weather, including work gloves (provided), long pants, long sleeved shirt, eye protection (provided), and sturdy shoes/boots etc. Work typically involves hiking over uneven, potentially rocky &/or wet, slippery terrain. Potential hazards include exposure to scratchy or thorny vegetation, irritating vegetation (i.e. poison oak), biting or stinging insects, snakes, wildlife, allergens (i.e. pollen, dust, etc) and other hazards typical of outdoor work environments. Moderate to strenuous physical exertion may be required, potentially at high elevation. Volunteer should drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration, protect against exposure to elements (i.e. sunscreen, hat, protective clothing) and take breaks as necessary. Work may involve crouching, bending over, and lifting (proper bending and lifting technique must be used by volunteer). Project may require ability to lift up to 40 pounds or 1/3 body weight (whichever is less). For projects involving tools, equipment should be handled in a safe manner at all times.

Project Name: Yosemite Creek Campground Rehabilitation

Description:

Yosemite Creek Campground, located at 7,700 feet on a spur of the Tioga Road, was severely damaged in the 1997 floods, and a whole section of the campground on the other side of the creek was cut off until the bridge was finally replaced in 2009. The campsites need to be reestablished, picnic tables built and installed, fire rings installed, and tents sites leveled. Volunteers will be performing all this work at this hidden gem in the Yosemite Campground collection.

Skills and Abilities:

Minimum Age: 14 Group Size: minimum 5, max 24

Volunteers must have some knowledge of carpentry and/or construction skills and the safe use of hand and power tools such as circular saws, planers, drills, air driven nail guns, augers, paint sprayers, and cement mixers as well as hand tools. May be required to lift over 60 pounds and/or drive government vehicles. Yosemite Creek Campground is located at 7,700 feet in elevation. Keep in mind that the road to Yosemite Creek follows the historic Tioga Road and is not recommended for RVs and trailers.

Project Name: Building Deconstruction

Description:

We have two old buildings in Yosemite Valley that are no longer in use and need to be removed. Help us deconstruct them and have some fun at the **same time! We'll be knocking down and** removing roofs, walls, flooring etc., then restoring the site and reclaiming all that lumber for reuse in other projects – recycling!

Skills and Abilities:

Minimum Age: 14 Group Size: minimum 5, max 25+

Volunteers must have some knowledge of electrical, plumbing, and/or carpentry skills and the safe use of hand and power tools such as circular saws, planers, drills, air driven nail guns, augers, paint sprayers, and cement mixers as well as hand tools. May be required to lift over 60 pounds and/or drive government vehicles.

Project Name: Ash Project and Campground Cleanup

Description:

Yosemite visitors love our campgrounds and picnic areas, so they are always in use. All those fire rings and barbeques fill up with **ash that needs to be removed, and that's where our volunteers** enter the picture. Volunteers will be provided with a 5 gallon bucket and a round point shovel to remove ash and debris from the fire rings. Once the bucket is full they will take the bucket of ash or debris to the dump truck and empty the bucket. Younger volunteers may be given litter pickers to help clean up campsites as well. Volunteers may also help with general campsites maintenance and cleanup.

Skills and Abilities:

Minimum Age: 5 Group Size: minimum 5, max depends on campsite

Must be able to carry a 5 gallon bucket of ash or debris safely and safely use hand tools such as shovels and litter sticks.

Project Name: Campground and Building Maintenance

Description:

Painting buildings, repairing park benches, cleaning gutters, building new structures, deconstructing old buildings, trail work, installing new lighting, removing old asphalt – the National Park Service has a maintenance backlog of billions of dollars. Thankfully at Yosemite **we're making a dent in our backlog with volunteer help. With these projects** the Volunteer/s will be working in all areas of the park doing a variety of projects, which may require skills in carpentry, electrical, concrete work, and plumbing. Must have a safe understanding of power equipment and hand tools.

Skills and Abilities:

Minimum Age: 14 Group Size: minimum 5, max 25 (or fewer depending on campsite)

Volunteers must have some knowledge of electrical, plumbing, and/or carpentry skills and the safe use of hand and power tools such as circular saws, planers, drills, air driven nail guns, augers, paint sprayers, and cement mixers as well as hand tools. May be required to lift over 60 pounds and/or drive government vehicles. The Volunteers will work at different location within the Park; some work may be at high elevations.

Project Number	Project Start Date	Work Schedule	Project Name	Project Description	Group required skills and age/size limits	Campground	Camping Arrival Date	Camping Departure Date
778	5/8/2010	Saturday, 9-3	Campground and Building Maintenance	(See Recurring Projects for Campground and Building Maintenance)	Minimum Age: 14 Group size: 5 to 25+ (See Recurring Projects for Campground and Building Maintenance)	Yellow Pines	5/7/2010	5/9/2010
791	5/25/2010	Tuesday, 9-3	Building Deconstruction	(See Recurring Projects for Building Deconstruction)	Minimum Age: 14 Group size: 5 to 25+ (See Recurring Projects for Building Deconstruction)	Yellow Pines	5/24/2010	5/26/2010
702	6/4/2010	Friday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	6/3/2010	6/5/2010
737	6/5/2010	Monday 9-3	Ash Project - Crane Flat	(See Recurring Project for Ash)	Minimum Age: 5 Group size: 24 max (See Recurring Project for Ash)	Crane Flat	6/4/2010	6/6/2010
705	6/11/2010	Friday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	6/10/2010	6/12/2010
770	6/13/2010	Sunday 9-3	Ash Project - White Wolf	(See Recurring Project for Ash)	Minimum Age: 5 Group size: 24 max (See Recurring Project for Ash)	White Wolf	6/11/2010	6/13/2010
707	6/17/2010	Thursday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	6/16/2010	6/18/2010
771	6/19/2010	Saturday 9-3	Ash Project - White Wolf	(See Recurring Project for Ash)	Minimum Age: 5 Group size: 24 max (See Recurring Project for Ash)	White Wolf	6/18/2010	6/20/2010

Project Number	Project Start Date	Work Schedule	Project Name	Project Description	Group required skills and age/size limits	Campground	Camping Arrival Date	Camping Departure Date
711	7/9/2010	Friday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	7/8/2010	7/10/2010
753	7/11/2010	Sunday 9-3	Ash Project - Porcupine Flat	(See Recurring Project for Ash)	Minimum Age: 5 Group size: 24 max (See Recurring Project for Ash)	Porcupine Flat	7/9/2010	7/11/2010
713	7/15/2010	Thursday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	7/14/2010	7/16/2010
714	7/16/2010	Friday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	7/15/2010	7/17/2010
716	7/22/2010	Thursday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	7/21/2010	7/23/2010
717	7/23/2010	Friday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	7/22/2010	7/24/2010
800	7/24/2010	Saturday 9-3	Yosemite Creek Rehabilitation	(See Recurring Projects for Yosemite Creek)	Minimum Age: 14 Group size: 24 max (See Recurring Projects for Yosemite Creek)	Yosemite Creek CG	7/23/2010	7/25/2010
772	7/25/2010	Sunday 9-3	Ash Project - White Wolf	(See Recurring Project for Ash)	Minimum Age: 5 Group size: 24 max (See Recurring Project for Ash)	White Wolf	7/23/2010	7/25/2010

Project Number	Project Start Date	Work Schedule	Project Name	Project Description	Group required skills and age/size limits	Campground	Camping Arrival Date	Camping Departure Date
718	7/29/2010	Thursday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	7/28/2010	7/30/2010
719	7/30/2010	Friday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	7/29/2010	7/31/2010
801	7/31/2010	Saturday 9-3	Yosemite Creek Rehabilitation	(See Recurring Projects for Yosemite Creek)	Minimum Age: 14 Group size: 24 max (See Recurring Projects for Yosemite Creek)	Yosemite Creek CG	7/30/2010	8/1/2010
720	8/5/2010	Thursday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	8/4/2010	8/6/2010
822	8/14/2010	Saturday 9-3	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	8/13/2010	8/15/2010
723	8/19/2010	Thursday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	8/18/2010	8/20/2010
724	8/20/2010	Friday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	8/19/2010	8/21/2010
769	9/4/2010	Saturday 9-3	Ash Project - Wawona	(See Recurring Project for Ash)	Minimum Age: 5 Group size: 24 max (See Recurring Project for Ash)	Wawona	9/3/2010	9/5/2010

Project Number	Project Start Date	Work Schedule	Project Name	Project Description	Group required skills and age/size limits	Campground	Camping Arrival Date	Camping Departure Date
726	9/9/2010	Thursday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	9/8/2010	9/10/2010
727	9/10/2010	Friday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	9/9/2010	9/11/2010
729	9/16/2010	Thursday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	9/15/2010	9/17/2010
730	9/17/2010	Friday 9-3 or half day	Vegetation Restoration	(See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Minimum Age: 8 Group size: 5-15 (See recurring Projects for Vegetation)	Yellow Pines	9/16/2010	9/18/2010
761	9/18/2010	Saturday 9-3	Ash Project - Upper Pines	(See Recurring Project for Ash)	Minimum Age: 5 Group size: 5 to 25+ (See Recurring Project for Ash)	Yellow Pines	9/17/2010	9/19/2010
742	10/2/2010	Saturday 9-3	Ash Project - Hodgdon Meadow	(See Recurring Project for Ash)	Minimum Age: 5 Group size: 30 max (See Recurring Project for Ash)	Hodgdon Meadow Group Site	10/2/2010	10/3/2010
738	10/9/2010	Saturday 9-3	Ash Project - Crane Flat	(See Recurring Project for Ash)	Minimum Age: 5 Group size: 24 max (See Recurring Project for Ash)	Crane Flat	10/8/2010	10/8/2010
752	10/23/2010	Saturday 9-3	Ash Project - North Pines	(See Recurring Project for Ash)	Minimum Age: 5 Group size: 10 to 25+ (See Recurring Project for Ash)	Yellow Pines	10/22/2010	10/24/2010



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